



SPOFFORD LAKE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



Fall, 2011

Susan Campbell, Editor

" the times they are a-changin' "

No, this is not about the changing of the season from summer to autumn.

*Although it does seem as though it was just summer -
and a gorgeous one, at that!!!*



The change in question concerns the SLA newsletter and its mode of delivery. There will still be a newsletter, but you will have the option to receive a hard copy via snail-mail OR to view the newsletter online at the SLA web site (www.spoffordlakeassoc.org). The first newsletter that will be sent to those who have paid their 2011 dues will arrive in the mail with an envelope for the purpose of remitting the SLA dues for 2012. At that time you will be offered a choice as to your newsletter preference --- you know "check this box for postal delivery or this box for online, etc." The only other mailing that will be sent to everyone will be the annual meeting invitation, along with a return envelope.



Mark your calendars...

*The SLA annual meeting is scheduled for
Friday, July 6, 2012, at Stonewall Farm.*



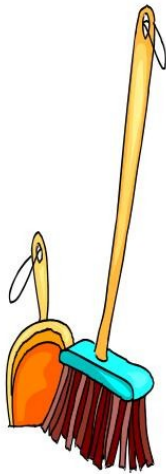
Spofford Fire Chief Gordon Rudolph reported to the Board that his department, along with the departments from five area towns, responded to a report of a gas spill spotted in the Silverdale/Linfield Road area. The spill was approximately 1/2 mile long and 200 yards deep. Booms were being used to contain the spill when Dave Digler of the EPA arrived. Due to weather conditions the booms were removed so as to allow the gas to evaporate faster on its own. The SLA thanks the department for its quick response to this potentially hazardous situation. The cause of the spill was never determined.

UPDATE: ROUTE 63 PROJECT

After speaking with Don Lyford, Project Engineer for the Route 63 Project, your editor has learned that the project continues to be included in the current 10-year plan. As always, money seems to be an issue. The current plan is to replace the guardrails with some overlay. There is a possibility that work could begin in late 2012 or in the spring of 2013.



Pierce Island Clean-Up



The members of the Board would like to express their thanks and appreciation to the fine folks at Camp Spofford for keeping a watchful eye on the island. They have had clean-up crews in effect all summer. We also want to thank the Spofford Fire Department for acquiring new signs to post on the island regarding NO open fires.

SLA Board of Directors 2011 - 2012



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To contact the Board, e-mail:
info@spoffordlakeassoc.org

LAKE LEVEL



Board members discussed the issue of the lake level. Following this year's rain and hurricane experiences, it is hoped that the town will be more proactive in its watch over the lake level to prevent any damage that might occur as a result of its being too high.



If you have Internet access, be certain to routinely check the SLA web page (www.spoffordlakeassoc.org) through the winter to stay on top of any news.



Thank you to Stowaway Marine and Camp Spofford for assisting in the production of this newsletter.



~ Then and Now ~
Spofford Hotels, Motels, and Guest Houses

"Are we there yet?"

That question was likely asked as often in years past as it is in present times.

What would the answer have been 50 years ago - or 100 years ago?

Below are photos which depict some of the places in Spofford where weary travelers might have laid their sleepy heads "back in the day".

Four of the eight establishments pictured below no longer exist.

Which four are still
in existence and
currently serve
as private residences?

Name a Spofford Lake
hotel, motel, or guest house
that is not pictured here.



Nearlake Inn



Snow White Motor Court



Silverdale Hotel



Lake Spofford Cabins



The Stone House



Lake Spofford Hotel



The Cottages at Wares



Ranch Motel & Drive-In Snack Bar

Submit your answers to susancampbell617@hotmail.com.



LAWN CARE FOR LAKE DWELLERS

We all love lush green lawns, but lawn care for lakeside dwellers can be tricky. Fertilizer, phosphorus especially, can leach into a lake and add to the water's acidity. Both the lake and the fish inhabiting it are already under strain from acid rain and from upland drainage from streams feeding the lake.

The State of New Hampshire Legislation, RSA: 483-B. **Shoreline Protection Act** states that:

“A thick buffer of native vegetation is a river’s best hedge against water pollution and erosion, while it also protects privacy, property values, and scenic beauty. Natural ground cover is especially important to maintain for its role in trapping pollutants. New Hampshire’s current buffer language is difficult to understand for anyone other than foresters and loggers, and often inappropriate for residential lots. We hope the committee will consider the findings of New Hampshire’s Wildlife Action Plan in devising easier to understand and more meaningful buffer protection.

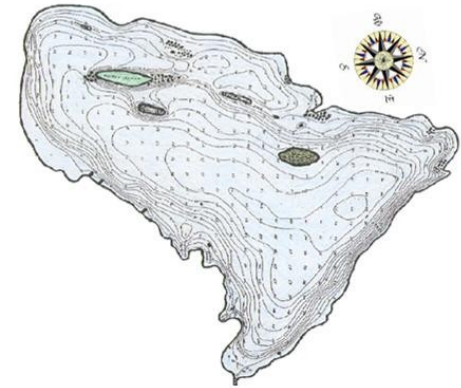
Chemical applications (including but not limited to pesticides and herbicides) are prohibited. Low phosphorus, slow release nitrogen fertilizer may be used for the area that is beyond 25’ from the reference line. No fertilizer, except limestone, shall be used between the reference line and 25 feet.

REFERENCE LINE: For *coastal waters* it is the highest observable tide line; for *rivers* it is the ordinary high water mark; for *natural fresh waterbodies* it is the natural mean high water level; and for *artificially impounded fresh waterbodies* it is the elevation at the spillway crest or the elevation of the state’s flowage.”

Because the soil around the lake is acidic, one should be applying limestone annually. Though best applied in the fall since it takes time for lime to work into the soil, anytime of year will do. Limestone is available in 2 mediums: powdered or pulverized lime (very dusty so be prepared) or dolomite lime (preferable to some as it is granular and can be spread with a drop spreader). Dolomite lime dissolves as soon as it comes into contact with any moisture on the ground.

Slow release fertilizer can be used and there are combinations of granular fertilizer with 0% phosphorus (the cause of acidity in lake water). Look for a set of three numbers (e.g. 0-0-0) on the fertilizer’s label. The numbers represent the percentage of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash in the mix. A good mix of fertilizer for use around a lake is 19-0-19 and 30-0-5. Nitrogen promotes green leaves, phosphorus promotes flowers and fruits, and potash promotes root growth. Since the goal is green leafy grass with good root structure, there is no need for phosphorus in a lawn fertilizer. Do not use liquid fertilizer such as “Miracle Gro”. Not only does it contain phosphorus, but, since it must be dissolved in water, it will also leach into the lake faster. If using such a fertilizer for outdoor container plants, make certain the containers have trays under them to catch any run-off.

If any questions or for more information, please contact Dynamic Landscaping & Supply LLC at 603-256-3101.



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